

Glossary

Browser

A browser is a software application program that provides a way to look at and interact with all the information on the World Wide Web.

Client

A software application that works to connect to, and extract some service from, a server somewhere on a network. Web browsers such as Netscape, Microsoft Internet Explorer, and NCSA Mosaic are examples of Web client software.

Document

A document is a set of data or information designed and presented as an individual entity. An official publication is a good example of a document. It may contain logical subunits such as parts, sections, or chapters, but it is typically created, updated, and presented as a single unit. The Web presentation of a document may consist of one or many Web pages. Synonyms: “HTML document,” “hypertext document,” “Web document.”

Document Collection

A document collection is a set of documents that are logically related, usually by their content, target audience, or origin (for example, a collection of studies produced by a program, project, or organization).

Content

Information combined with functionality

Cookie

Web pages use cookies to store information about the visitor’s activity at the site. For example, cookies are commonly used to rotate banner ads as the visitor downloads various pages on a web site. There are two types of cookies: *Persistent* (stored on the visitor’s hard drive) and *session* (stored in memory and released when the browser is closed). Based on privacy concerns, the Department does not allow the use of persistent cookies..

Frames and Faux Frames

Independently controllable sections of a web page. The page is a “master” HTML file composed of frames, each calling other content sources. Some browsers, or versions of browsers, cannot handle frames. A faux frame is an area of Web page, typically serving as a navigation menu, that *appears* to be a frame, but doesn’t actually function independently of the rest of the page.

Home page

This page sits at the top of a logical hierarchy of pages for a site. Each site has one home page.

The home page can function as the “Welcome page,” the first page the unfamiliar user should access. Although the term “home page” is commonly used as a synonym for “Web Server,” in this document the terms are not equivalent.

Internet

The worldwide “network of networks,” which are connected to each other using the Internet protocol and other similar protocols. The Internet provides file transfer, remote login, electronic mail, news, and other services. The World-Wide Web exists on the Internet and the term is frequently mistakenly used as a synonym for the Internet.

Intranet

An intranet is a private network that is contained within an enterprise. An intranet may be connected to other networks through a gateway or with security controls to the Internet through a firewall. When those conducting business with the enterprise can access the intranet from outside the enterprise, the intranet is part of an extranet.

Link

A link is a selectable connection from information object to another, most commonly another file or location within the same page. Links are the threads making up the World-Wide Web.

Navigation pane, or menu

A distinct area of a Web page, especially the home page, containing a menu of links for navigating within the Web site or out of the site to related sites.

Web presence, Web space

The totality of an enterprise’s Web activity, being its sites and content and the role it plays in the operations of the enterprise.

Search engine

Utility allowing user to search the Web site for content, using keywords or string searches.

Session cookie

See Cookie

Site

See Web site

Site Administrator

The person responsible for maintaining the hardware and software system upon which the Web server resides. The Webmaster often serves as the system administrator, particularly for smaller Web sites.

System Administrator

The person responsible for maintaining a Web site as a coherent, integrated system of files and

links to other servers and sites.

Site map

A site map is a model of a Web site's content that functions as an interactive table of contents. The site map may be visual or textual and is often hierarchical.
Supporting pages

Supporting pages

Any Web pages that expand upon the information content of the Home Page and are electronically invoked from the Home Page or from other supporting pages.

Web Asset

Primary assets are the Web sites, servers, and content which NOAA organizations utilize across the World Wide Web and intranets to support the execution of NOAA's mission.

Webmaster

An individual responsible for creating and/or maintaining an organization's WWW computer software and the computer's information content. Generally, this is an individual with significant computer skills required to load and to manage software on a Web server computer. Often for smaller sites, the webmaster and site administrator or system administrator are the same person.

Web page

A single unit of information sent, as an individual computer file, in response to a user's Web request. Pages may exist as stored files or be generated dynamically. Although most pages are static files, some are not. HTML forms, CGI scripts, and other mechanisms may be used to create pages that are front-ends to databases or other types of information services. Such services may dynamically create new pages containing query responses or customized forms in response to user input. Synonym: "Web page," "WWW page."

Web Server

Any computer that serves substantive information over the Internet using protocols commonly referred to as "the World-Wide Web," including HTTP and publicly-available anonymous FTP and NNTP. This definition does not include internal FTP transfers, electronic mail services, or network-enable appliances, such as routers, switches, plotters, or printers.

Web Service

A Web service is an effort to provide information to an intended audience using a Web server. A Web server may provide several different Web services.

Web site

Any Internet-connected computer with specific Internet address executing Web server software and accessible with a common Web browser. Functionally, the Web site is the set of Web pages collected under the home page.

World Wide Web

The World Wide Web is hypertext-based system for finding and accessing data and information resources on the Internet.

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